**Fertilizer project in Tripura**

1065. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Tripura has been continuously pursuing with the Central Government with a proposal for setting up a gas-based fertilizer project in the State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a Mumbai-based company, namely, North-East Petrochemicals Private Limited has shown keen interest in the matter;

(c) if so, the role of the Central Government in providing support to this important project in Tripura; and

(d) by when the proposal will be approved?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) As per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July, 1991, no licence is normally required for setting up/expansion of fertilizer plants. Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. However, Public Sector Undertakings/Cooperative Societies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have to obtain approval of the Government before undertaking such capital expenditure beyond their delegated powers. Further, setting up of new, expansion and de-bottlenecking projects of urea requires prior approval of the Department of Fertilizers as per the pricing policy for investment made in new, expansion and de-bottlenecking projects of urea notified in January 2004. No proposal pertaining to the State of Tripura have been submitted to the Government for approval.

**Decontrolling drug sector**

1066. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to decontrol the drug-sector; and